

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 /071 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

USMISSION UN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2889

USIA FOR IOP/M, IAA

DEPT FOR AF/S

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: RSA MEDIA REACTION: CAPE TOWN TALKS; US/RSA RELATIONS

SUMMARY: CAPE TOWN TALKS AND RESULTS FRONT-PAGE NEWS THROUGHOUT RSA.
COVERAGE STRAIGHTFORWARD WITH LITTLE EDITORIALIZING. DIE BRUGER LAUDS
WASH POST EDITORIAL. JUNE 10 SOWETO INCIDENT REPORTED WITHOUT
COMMENT. END SUMMARY:

1. RSA MEDIA JUNE 11 CARRIED RESULTS OF CAPE TOWN TALKS ON FRONT PAGE
S.

JOHANNESBURG CONSERVATE ENGLISH PAPER THE CITIZEN HEADLINED " GOOD
NEWS ON SWA". REPORT FROM CAPE TOWN SAID SWA IS NOW CLOSER TO
INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED INDEPENDEMRZ AFTER PROGRESS WAS MADE IN
CAPE TOWN THIS WEEK BY THE GOVT, THE BIG FIVE WESTERN NATIONS OF THE
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SECURITY COUNCIL AND THE TURNHALLE DELEGATES." STORY NOTED
SIGNIFICANCE THAT BOTH VORSTER AND EM. MCHENRY CHARACTERIZED TALKS AS
"USUYLA ZTBENSTRUCTIVE." ARTCCGE SPECUALTED " FREE ELECTION IN SWA
AT END OF THE YEAR COULD BE FOLLOWED BY ACCEPTANCE OF TERRITORY'S TOT
AL
INDEPENDENCE SOON AFTER AND LONG BEFORE THE ENVISAGED DEADLINE WHICH

IS DEC. 78." LIBERAL RAND DAILY MAIL HEADLINED " RSA DITCHES PLAN FOR

TURNHALLE," AND CHARACTERIZED SAG POSITION AS " BACKDOWN". REPORT SAI
D

"EXPERT OBERVERS BELIEVE SAG DESIGUISED ITS MAJOR DIPLOMATIC DEFEAT
BY ASKING TURNHALLE DELEGATES TO ANNOUNCE THAT THEY HAD REQUESTED RSA
TO AGREE TO THE WEST'S DEMANDS." SWAPO UN REP. THEO BEN BURIRAB
WAS QUOTED AS REJECTING PLAN TO APPOINT ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL
BEFORE ELECTIONS. CLEMENS KAPUUNO ALSO QUOTED SAYING ELECTIONS TO BE
RUNON " ETHNIC BASIS".

2. AFRIKANER PAPERS CARRIED STRAIGHTFORWARD ACCOUNTS OF CAPE TOWN
TALKS. JOHANNESBURG BAELED CARRIED HEADLINE "SWA JUMPS THIRTY YEARS...
DTHA ZALG IS NOW IN THE COURT OF THE WEST". (NOTE: THIS IS REFERENCE
TO
APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR-GENERAL.) CAPE TOWN'S DIE BRUGER
HEADLINED " ONE WILL GOVERN SWA IN THE INTERIM... THE WEST WILL
HAVE TO SELL THE PLAN". JOHANNESBURG DIE TRANSVALER HAD HEADLINE
"BREAKTHROUGH IN SWA". SAME PAPER EDITORIALIZED " THURNHALLE IS TO
BE CONGRATULATED ON ITS COURAGEOUS STEP ASKING FOR FREE
ELECTIONS. BY DOING SO, THEY HAVE RELIEVED PM VORSTER OF HIS
UNDERTAKING TO ESTABLISH AN INTERIM GOVT, AND THEY HAVE ALSO OPENED
THE WAY FOR WELL-DISPOSED COUNTRIES TO RECOGNIZE THE INDEPENDENCE OF
SWA". EDITORIAL SAID SWAPO WILL HAVE ITS THIRD OPPORTUNITY TO
"SHOW WHAT SUPPORT IT ENJOYS IN SWA... EVERY TIME THEY HAVE DODGED
THE OPPORTUNITY AND THEY DID NOT ATTEND THE TURNHALLE CONFERENCE
EITHER. IF THEY AVOID THE OPPORTUNITY THIS TIME, IT WILL DEMONSTRATE
THEY ARE AFRAID TO FACE THE ISSUE." PAPER ENCOURAGED COUNTRIES
WHICH SUPPORT SWAPO TO ENCOURAGE THAT ORGANIZATION TO TAKE PART IN
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ELECTION. " IF THEY DON'T DO SO, IT WILL DEMONSTRATE THAT
WHAT THEY WANT TO DO IN SWA IS WHAT WAS DONE IN ANGOLA AND
MOZAMBIQUE, NAME TO PUT INTO POWER A MINORITY GROUP." EDITORIAL
ENDED BY SAYING GREAT CARE MUST BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT PERSON CHOSEN
TO PRESIDE AS " ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL" OF TERRITORY MUST BE
ACCEPTABLE TO "ALL INHABITANTS OF SWA".

3. DIE BURGER JUNE 10 PRAISED EDITORIAL POSITION TAKEN BY WASHINGTON
N
POST WHICH REPORTEDLY " SAID THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION
SHOULD BE PREPARED TO RECOGNIZE HONEST ATTEMPTS BY SAG TO BRING
ABOUT A NEW POLITICAL DISPOSITION EVEN THOUGH IT FALLS SHORT OF THE
AMERICAN IDEAL.. " THIS IS GREAT PROGRESS. IT IS AN ENCOURAGING
DIVIATION FROM THE ATTITUDE AMERICANS HAVE TAKEN IN THE PAST IN MANY
PARTS OF THE WORLD WHERE THEY GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THEY WANTED
TO ARRANGE EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO AMERICAN VIEWS OR AMERICAN
TRADITIONS-- AMERICAN SOLUTIONS IN SITUATIONS WHERE THEY DO NOT
APPLY. MUCH HARM HAS ALREADY BEEN DONE BY THIS."

4. MORNING PAPERS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY REPORTED JUNE 10 INCIDENT IN SOWETO WHERE BPAO JACOBSEN AND VISITING AMERICAN PROFESSOR MICHAEL HARPER HELD FOR HOUR BY POLICE AUTHORITIES. ACCOUNT ALSO REPORTED U.S. TV CREW PICKED UP SAME DAY. JOHANNESBURG DIE TRANSVALER LED STRAIGHTFORWARD ARTICLE " YANKS TRAPPED IN SOWETO". RAND DAILY MAIL BURIED STORY IN GENERAL ARTICLE ON SOWETO UNREST ON FRONT PAGE. PAPER AIMED AT BLACKS " THE WORLD" PUT ARTICLE ON FRONT PAGE UNDER PHTO OF PROF. HARPER. REPORT SAID " THE ARREST MAY HAVE WIDER REPERCUSSIONS AS PROF. HARPER IS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF ANDREW YOUNG". MOST PROMINENT COVERAGE GIVEN BY THE CITIZEN WHICH CARRIED ARTICLE ON PAGE 7 UNDER PHOTOS OF BPAO, HARPER AND CHUCK GATES (AMERICAN ABC-TY PRODUCER). SLANTED STORY QUOTED JACOBSEN SAYING " I AM NOT AT ALL HAPPY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN SOWETO TODAY. I AM SENDING A FULL REPORT ON THE INCIDENT TO WASHINGTON". ARTICLE QUOTED JACOBSEN SAYING PROF. HARPER HAD TAKEN INCIDENT IN " GOOD GRACE" AND VIEWED IT AS " ANOTHER INTERESTING DIMENSION IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN SITUATION". ALSO UNCLASSIFIED

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QUOTED WAS JACOBSEN STATEMENT THAT GROUP HAD TO WAIT HALF AN HOUR FOR

INTERVIEW WITH MAJ. VISSER AND DELAY CAUSED CANCELLATION OF LUNCHEON ENGAGEMENT. ALL ACCOUNTS REPORTED AMERICANS WERE IN SOWETO WITHOUT PERMITS AND STATEMENT FROM HEAD OF POLICE IN SOWETO, BRIG. JAN VISSER, SAYING PERMITS ARE NEEDED TO ENTER TOWNSHIP. NO EDITORIAL COMMENT-- SO FAR. HUGHES

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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TAGS: SOPN, PDEV, SF, WA, US, UK, FR, GE, CA
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